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Applicants

Simmons et al.

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS LETTER

SIR:

The undersigned respectfully requests the status of the above-referenced patent application at the earliest convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

COLEMAN SUDOL SANDYE, N.

Bv

Henry D. Coleman Reg. No. 32,559

714 Colorado Avenue

Bridgeport, CT 06605-1601

(203) 366-3560

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Ceertificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on May 12, 2004

Harold Hull.